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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY	USSR/Germany(Soviet Zone)/Rumania/Hungary/Poland/ Baltic States/ Bulgaria/Czechoslovakia
SUBJECT	Comparative Reliability of Satellite Countries/ Attitudes of Soviet National Groups Toward One Another

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1. The Soviet Zone of Germany is by far the worst trouble area in the Soviet sphere. Economic conditions are catastrophic due to great war damage, heavy reparations to the Soviet Union, the heavy drain caused by maintaining the huge Soviet Occupation Forces, evacuation of the better engineers and specialists to the Soviet Union, and inability of the local Communists to manage the economy efficiently. In addition the East German currency is so weak that it inhibits trade, and therefore East Germany has very little commerce with other countries. [redacted] East Germans recognize the foe as Communism rather than as the Russian people, for many of them have been prisoners in the Soviet Union and have come to realize that the Russian people are suffering as much as Satellite peoples from Communism. 50X1 [redacted] Soviet Occupation troops have gained the regard and 50X1 respect of the East German people.
2. The Rumanians have no love for the Soviet yoke, but as a people they are pleasure-loving, undisciplined and incapable of active resistance that involves danger. However, there has been resistance to collectivization.
3. The Hungarian people are chauvinistic and hate the Russians as Russians.
4. Poland is very nationalistic and the people hate the Russians as such. There is some anti-Russian guerilla activity and resistance to collectivization. A mitigating factor in Poland is the fact that Poland was ceded some former German territory.

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5. The most favorable attitudes toward Soviet authority prevail in Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria

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6. Baltic peoples are industrious and live comparatively better than the Russians. However, their standard of living is falling and in any case is much lower than it was before World War II. Incorporation of the Baltic republics into the USSR was senseless and completely unjustified and the result has been hatred of the Russians. Russians themselves feel a sense of guilt and embarrassment at this situation.
7. Great Russians consider Ukrainians and White Russians as Russians. Great Russians generally are fond of and respect all national groups within the Soviet Union with the exception of Georgians, Armenians and Jews. However, it often happens that a Russian likes and respects some of these peoples as individuals. Russians consider Georgians two-faced and unpredictable, Armenians slovenly, and they dislike Jews simply because they are Jews. People of these nationalities naturally have a mutual dislike for the Great Russians. Russians like middle Asian peoples and Balts, though vis-a-vis the latter they feel a certain embarrassment for having seized their countries and occupied them against the will of the native populace.
8. Most national minority peoples like and respect the Russians, with the exceptions mentioned above. Baltic peoples dislike Russians and resent the occupation of their countries. Some Ukrainians fail to reciprocate Russian fondness for them, confounding the Russian people with the Communist regime. Contrary to the position taken by the NTS, a large number of Ukrainians desire an independent Ukraine with their own Ukrainian leaders. This is true not only of Galicians, but also of Ukrainians living well east of the Dnepr River. White Russians tend to think of themselves as Russians and use their native language to a much lesser extent than the Ukrainians.
9. There is no question in my mind but that such countries as Georgia and the Baltic republics have their own national culture, language and territory within clearly defined borders. They have nothing in common with Russia and should be independent of her, though they might find it necessary to preserve some sort of an economic unity with her.

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